

**ECOS Fall Meeting
August 2015
Oklahoma and Others**

Issue: UIC Injection Well Induced Seismicity

Message:

- EPA's UIC National Technical Workgroup, which includes our state partners, has developed a technical approach that UIC programs can use to respond to these situations.
- EPA is also participating in the IOGCC/GWPC national panel working to examine how UIC state programs can assess and address this issue.

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Background/Status:

- The occurrence of earthquakes near UIC Class II (oil and gas waste) injection wells has increased dramatically in some areas (especially in Oklahoma, which is now the most seismically active of the 48 contiguous states).
- Many academic studies and some states have linked these earthquakes to pressure increases caused by UIC Class II wells, but most industry representatives deny a causal link.
- In early August, USGS updated its US National Seismic Hazards Map, dramatically raising its evaluation of risks in many areas, primarily due to induced seismicity.